UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/825,172	04/16/2004	Terrence Martineau	ALC 3130	8264

7590   06/16/2008

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EXAMINER
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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2173	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
06/16/2008	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *07 April 2008*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1,3-6,8-16 and 18-20* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1, 3-6, 8-16, 18-20* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some *   c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Remarks

1.   This Office action is responsive to the Request for Continued Examination (RCE)

filed under 37 CFR §1.53(d) for the instant application on 4/7/08.   Applicants have

properly set forth the RCE, which has been entered into the application, and an

examination on the merits follows herewith.

Claims 1, 3-6, 8-16, and 18-20 have been examined and rejected. This Office

action is responsive to the amendment filed on 4/7/08, which has been entered in the

above identified application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3.   Claims 1, 3-6, 8-16, and 18-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being

anticipated by Hewlett-Packard Company ("Managing Your Network with HP OpenView

Network Node Manager", May 2002), herein after HP.

Claims 1, 3-5 (Method)

Claims 6, 8-12 (Modified GUI)

Claims 16, 18-20 (Network Map)

3-1.   Regarding claims 1, 6, and 16, HP teaches the claim comprising collecting data

for all objects to be displayed on said map in response to a request transmitted over a

GUI, by disclosing Network Node Manager (NNM) that provides an integrated tool for a

network manager to control and manage multiple networked systems and applications

from a single graphical representation of the network *[page 48, "Network Management*

Functions", paragraph 1]. NNM may store configuration information as well as track

inventory of the devices on the network *[page 52, "Configuration and Change*

Management – NNM's Capabilities]. NNM allows for the creation of custom maps for

devices on a network *[page 94, "Work Sheet for Devices"; pages 104-105]*.

HP teaches bundling all connections between a network device and a group of

network devices outside said map into an outside link, grouping all outside links for said

network device into a multiple link connector (MLC) object and associating said MLC

object with an interactive connector icon, and displaying said map showing said

interactive connector icon attached to said network device, by disclosing maps and

submaps *[page 201, "Maps versus Submaps"]* containing objects and symbols *[page*

205, "Understanding Objects versus Symbols"]. Objects may represent a single item or

multiple items *[page 206, "Objects"]*.

HP teaches selecting said interactive connector icon for displaying a pop-up

window showing a multiple link connector (MLC) list where each outside link object is

associated with a respective group object, by disclosing that users can view object
properties for any network element that NNM manages, such as internet, network,
segment, node, or interface *[pages 117-118, "Viewing the Properties of Your Network
Configuration"]*. Users can also view attributes assigned to any object by selecting any
symbol to display a list of attributes categories *[page 237, "Changing/Adding Object
Attribute Fields", paragraph 5]*. Attributes include a selection list, which is a list of
objects that are represented by the symbol selected by the user *[page 207, "Object
Attributes/Properties", paragraph 4]*. Additionally, users can select a node and display
all devices connected to it *[pages 288-289, "Port-Address Mapping"]*.

As per claim 6, HP teaches a map data collector, by disclosing the discovery
process of network devices *[pages 62-63, "Automatic Discovery and Layout"; page 93-
94, 104-105]*. HP teaches a multiple link connector (MLC) generator, by disclosing
creating maps and submaps *[page 201, "Maps versus Submaps"]* containing objects
and symbols *[page 205, "Understanding Objects versus Symbols"]*. HP teaches
maintaining a connections list L(n) for each said outside link, by disclosing storing object
properties for any network element that NNM manages *[page 117, "Viewing the
Properties of Your Network Configuration – Viewing Object Descriptions"]*. HP teaches a
list organizer, by disclosing that objects may represent a single item or multiple items
[page 206, "Objects"] and viewing attributes assigned to any object by selecting any
symbol to display a list of attributes categories *[page 237, "Changing/Adding Object
Attribute Fields", paragraph 5]* as well as displaying all devices connected to a node
[pages 288-289, "Port-Address Mapping"].

3-2.   Regarding claims 3 and 18, HP teaches the claim wherein said multiple link connector list displays in each row an interactive outside link widget associated with a respective interactive group identification widget, by disclosing links under Hostname, which are associated with a port and node status *[page 289, figure 8-17]*. Additionally, a list of menu commands for each object may be displayed with respect to the object selected *[page 208, "Operations on Objects"; page 237, "Changing/Adding Object Attribute Fields", paragraph 5]*.

3-3.   Regarding claims 4 and 19, HP teaches the claim further comprising selecting said interactive outside link widget on said multiple link connector list to display a connections list L(n) identifying all connections bundled within said outside link object, by disclosing links under Hostname *[page 289, figure 8-17]*.

3-4.   Regarding claims 5 and 20, HP teaches the claim further comprising selecting said respective interactive group identification widget on said multiple link connector list to display a sub-map of said network showing all network devices in said group, by disclosing showing hidden objects *[page 208, "Operations on Objects"]* and using symbols to open child submaps *[page 212, "Behavior"]*.

3-5.   Regarding claim 8, HP teaches the claim wherein each said outside link is displayed using an interactive outside link widget, by disclosing that users can view

object properties for any network element that NNM manages, such as internet,

network, segment, node, or interface *[pages 117-118, "Viewing the Properties of Your*

Network Configuration"]. Users can also view attributes assigned to any object by

selecting any symbol to display a list of attributes categories *[page 237,*

"Changing/Adding Object Attribute Fields", paragraph 5]. Attributes include a selection

list, which is a list of objects that are represented by the symbol selected by the user

[page 207, "Object Attributes/Properties", paragraph 4]. Explodable symbols may be

used to open submaps *[page 202, "Submaps", paragraph 3]* and nodes may be

selected to display all devices connected to it *[pages 288-289, "Port-Address Mapping"]*.

3-6.   Regarding claim 9, HP teaches the claim wherein each said group of outside

network devices is displayed using an interactive group identification widget, by

disclosing explodable symbols to open submaps *[page 202, "Submaps", paragraph 3]*,

displaying hidden objects *[page 208, "Operations on Objects"]*, and links under

Hostname *[page 289, figure 8-17]*.

3-7.   Regarding claim 10, HP teaches the claim wherein said list organizer displays

said MLC list in response to selection of said interactive outside link widget, by

disclosing that users can view object properties for any network element that NNM

manages, such as internet, network, segment, node, or interface *[pages 117-118,*

"Viewing the Properties of Your Network Configuration"]. Users can also view attributes

assigned to any object by selecting any symbol to display a list of attributes categories

[page 237, "Changing/Adding Object Attribute Fields", paragraph 5]. Attributes include a selection list, which is a list of objects that are represented by the symbol selected by the user *[page 207, "Object Attributes/Properties", paragraph 4]*. Additionally, users can select a node and display all devices connected to it *[pages 288-289, "Port-Address Mapping"]*.

3-8.   Regarding claim 11, HP teaches the claim wherein said list organizer displays a sub-map of said group in response to selection of said interactive group identification widget, by disclosing explodable symbols to open submaps *[page 202, "Submaps", paragraph 3]*, displaying hidden objects *[page 208, "Operations on Objects"]*, and links under Hostname *[page 289, figure 8-17]*.

3-9.   Regarding claim 12, HP teaches the claim wherein said interactive connector icon is not generated for a single connection, by disclosing that objects may represent a single item or multiple items *[page 206, "Objects"]*. Additionally, segments may contain multiple nodes *[page 118, "Description of a Segment Object"]*.

Claims 13-15

3-10.   Regarding claim 13, HP teaches the claim comprising whenever a network device is connected to more than one outside network device of a group of network devices external to said map, displaying an outside link connecting said network device with said group using an interactive multiple link connector icon, by disclosing Network

Node Manager (NNM) that provides an integrated tool for a network manager to control

and manage multiple networked systems and applications from a single graphical

representation of the network *[page 48, "Network Management Functions", paragraph

1]*. Maps and submaps *[page 201, "Maps versus Submaps"]* containing objects and

symbols *[page 205, "Understanding Objects versus Symbols"]* are displayed. Objects

may represent a single item or multiple items *[page 206, "Objects"]*.

HP teaches selecting said multiple link connector icon on said map to obtain a

multiple link connector list, by disclosing that users can view object properties for any

network element that NNM manages, such as internet, network, segment, node, or

interface *[pages 117-118, "Viewing the Properties of Your Network Configuration"]*.

Users can also view attributes assigned to any object by selecting any symbol to display

a list of attributes categories *[page 237, "Changing/Adding Object Attribute Fields",

paragraph 5]*. Attributes include a selection list, which is a list of objects that are

represented by the symbol selected by the user *[page 207, "Object

Attributes/Properties", paragraph 4]*. Additionally, users can select a node and display

all devices connected to it *[pages 288-289, "Port-Address Mapping"]*.

HP teaches displaying an interactive outside link widget associated with an

interactive group identification widget for each group of outside network devices

connected to said network device, by disclosing links under Hostname, which are

associated with a port and node status *[page 289, figure 8-17]*. Additionally, a list of

menu commands for each object may be displayed with respect to the object selected

[page 208, "Operations on Objects"; page 237, "Changing/Adding Object Attribute

Fields", paragraph 5].

3-11.   Regarding claim 14, HP teaches the claim further comprising selecting said

interactive outside link widget for said outside link to obtain a list L(n) with all

connections between said network device and said group, by disclosing links under

Hostname *[page 289, figure 8-17]*.

3-12.   Regarding claim 15, HP teaches the claim further comprising selecting said

interactive group identification widget on said multiple link connector list to display a

sub-map of all network devices in said group, by disclosing showing hidden objects

[page 208, "Operations on Objects"] and using symbols to open child submaps *[page*

212, "Behavior"].

Response to Arguments

4.   The Examiner acknowledges the Applicant's amendments to claims 6, 8, 9, 12,

and 16 and the cancellation of claim 7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1,

6, 13, and 16 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of

rejection.

Conclusion

5.   The prior art made of record on attached form PTO-892 and not relied upon is

considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Applicant is required under 37 C.F.R §

111(c) to consider these references fully when responding to this action. The

documents cited therein teach similar systems for a multiple link connector list.

6.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to ALVIN H. TAN whose telephone number is (571)272-

8595. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 10:00-6:30.

        If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Dennis Chow can be reached on 571-272-7767. The fax phone number for

the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

        Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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